the benefits derived from his able and conscientious discharge of the official trusts confided to him."

In 1912 he published "How and Why Stories," a delightful collection of tales told by negroes in Tennessee, bearing on the episodes of creation—"how the snake lost his legs," and the like—quite worthy of place besides the Georgia tales of "Uncle Remus."

In person Branner was robust and vigorous, six feet in height and well proportioned, a man of attractive personality and excellent address. In college he was noted for his dry humor, unfailing readiness, and good nature. As a teacher he was singularly successful in training men to thorough and accurate dealing with problems of geology and mining, gaining the personal love and confidence of his students. Among his disciples are many of high standing in the profession—Herbert Hoover, Robert V. Anderson, Frank M. Anderson, Ralph Arnold, George H. Ashley, Carl H. Beal, Willis S. Blatchley, W. J. Crook, H. W. Durrell, Noah F. Drake, Frank L. Hess, Theodore L. Hoover, J. M. Hyde, D. S. Kimball, E. M. Kindle, Newton B. Knox, Henry Landes, Deane P. Mitchell, James H. Means, John F. Newsom, Frederick W. Nobs, Edward H. Nutter, W. A. Pritchard, A. H. Purdue, Milnor Roberts, Hugh Rose, Claude Siebenthal, E. K. Soper, Herbert S. Stark, Stephen Taber, Frederick P. Vickery, Gerald A. Waring, H. E. Williams, Hayes Young, and many others well known in science or mining. The "Branner Club" of Los Angeles is composed of his students in geology.

I must add a personal word. My acquaintance with Branner covers fifty-two years, the first two as fellow-student and fraternity brother in Delta Upsilon, the next thirty as fellow-teacher and co-worker in science in Indiana and in California, three more as my successor and colleague in administration of the educational work to which I gave the best twenty-five years of my life, and, finally, five years of retirement from active responsibility to the congenial work of writing out of the fullness of experience. In all these years he lived up to his motto, "I can get along without the respect of my neighbors, but not without the respect of *Number One.*" And in maintaining self-respect, he won the regard of his neighbors of whatever degree. A righteous life helps to strengthen all who come in contact with it. "There is always room for a man of force and he makes room for many."

DAVID STARR JORDAN

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

WORLD PRODUCTION OF COAL IN 1921

THE world's production of coal in 1921 dropped back to the level of 1909. From reports so far received, the United States Geological Survey estimates the total output at approximately 1,100,000,000 metric tons. This figure is subject to material revision.

In comparison with the feverish year 1920, the year just closed shows a decrease of more than 200,000,000 tons. The chief factors in the decrease were the British miners' strike which lasted from April to June, and—more important—a world-wide industrial depression. Prices collapsed early in the year, and the seaborne coal trade of the world fell off sharply. The consequent reduction in the volume of business offered to the shipping of the world has been an important element in the decline in ocean freight rates.

Of the major coal-producing nations, France and Germany were the only ones to show an increase. Progress in restoring the ruined mines of France is indicated by the steady increase in output of the past three years. In 1919, 22,000,000 tons were produced; in 1920, 25,000,000; in 1921, 29,000,000. A further increase of 12,000,000 tons, however, would be necessary to bring French production up to the level of 1913. German production of bituminous coal is also still far below the pre-war level although an increase was effected in 1921 as against 1920. German production of lignite in 1921 reached the highest point ever attained. The estimated output of 120,000,000 tons is an increase of 35,000,000 tons over the last year before the war.

The proportion contributed by the United States was 40.9 per cent., a larger share than in the years before the European war, but the smallest in any year since 1916.

The following table, prepared by W. I.

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF THE WORLD'S COAL PRODUCTION IN CALENDAR YEARS 1919, 1920 AND 1921
(In metric tons of 2,204,622 lbs.)

COUNTRY	1919	1920	1921
Australia	10,736,321	13,176,426	[1]
Belgium	18,342,950	22,388,770	21,807,160
British India	22,991,217	17,356,889	[1]
Canada	12,411,328	15,088,175	13,300,000
China	23,000,000	19,500,000	[1]
Czechoslovakia	26,946,813	31,086,479	[1]
France	22,341,000	25,300,000	29,000,000
Germany—Coal	116,500,000[2]	140,757,433[2]	145,400,000[2]
Lignite	93,800,000	111,634,000	120,000,000
Japan	31,461,386	29,245,384	[1]
Union of South Africa	9,313,232	11,181,846	9,400,000[3]
United Kingdom	233,467,478	233,216,071	166,992,000
United States	502,534,410	586,000,000	448,600,000
Other countries	46,553,865	49,068,527	[1]
Totals	1,170,400,000	1,305,000,000	1,100,000,000

[1] Estimate included in total. [2] Includes Saar and Upper Silesia. [3] Estimated from 11 months' production.

Whiteside, of the Section of Foreign Mineral Reserves, presents the information received by the Geological Survey up to February 15, 1922. The tonnage of the countries not yet heard from ordinarily amounts to 12 or 15 per cent. of the total. Receipt of data for these missing countries, estimates for which are included in the total, may raise or lower the final figure by some millions of tons. The unit used is the metric ton of 2,205 pounds, the approximate equivalent of the long or gross ton. It is not, however, exactly the same, and the translation from net or gross tons to metric tons gives many of the figures an unfamiliar look. A more complete report on world production in 1921 will be issued by the Geological Survey about April 1.

THE MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION

WE learn from the London *Times* that the preparations for this year's Mount Everest expedition are now complete. The nine members who have left England for India are:

Brigadier-General the Honorable C. G. Bruce, C.B., chief of the expedition.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. L. Strutt, C.B.E., D.S.O., second in command.

Mr. G. L. Mallory, who led the climbing party in 1921.

Mr. George Finch, of the Imperial College of Science.

Major E. F. Norton, D.S.O., R.F.A.

Mr. T. Howard Somervell, F.R.C.S., of University College Hospital.

Dr. A. M. Wakefield, of Megantic, Quebec Province.

Dr. T. G. Longstaff, surgeon and naturalist.

Captain J. B. L. Noel, M.G.C., photographic officer.

The party will be joined in India, the *Geographical Journal* published by the Royal Geographical Society states, by Captain Geoffrey Bruce, Fifth Gurkhas, and by Captain C. J. Morris, Third Q.A.O. Gurkhas. The twelfth place was to have been filled by an artist, but to the great disappointment of the committee it was not possible to find one among those whose methods seemed appropriate, who could undertake the journey. Of the eleven members of the expedition named above six are soldiers—three of the Gurkhas, one of the Royal Scots, one Royal Field Artillery, and one Machine Gun Corps, formerly of the East Yorkshire Regiment.

Three members of the party are of Cambridge University—Mr. Mallory, of Magdalene, Mr. Somervell, of Caius, and Dr. Wakefield, of Trinity; two are of Oxford University—Colonel Strutt and Dr. Longstaff, both of Christ Church; three are surgeons; two are naturalists, several are expert photographers, one at least is a painter, and all are distinguished mountaineers. It is, in fact, a very strong party, of which much is expected.